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Dear Friend,

Welcome to this week's newsletter! September is off to a busy start. I participated in the Agriculture committee markup, attended meetings with various groups, and signed onto some great legislation. Keep reading for more highlights!

Legislative Updates

Letters I sent:

- Letter to Chairwoman Eddie Bernice Johnson requesting to include \$100 million for local fire departments to replace firefighting foam and gear made with toxic per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS in the reconciliation package.
- Letter to Chairman Nadler and Chairman Durbin requesting that H.J.Res.17, a resolution that would remove the arbitrary deadline for the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment, be included in the reconciliation package.

Legislation I cosponsored:

- [**Global Malnutrition Prevention and Treatment Act of 2021.**](#) This bill would direct USAID to prioritize global nutrition issues through the implementation of a five-year strategy. The bill creates a Nutrition Leadership Council at USAID to help implement the strategy and ensure global nutrition issues are prioritized.
- [**LIFT the BAR Act of 2021.**](#) This bill lifts the five-year bar and other barriers that deny immigrants access to health and social services (restore access to public programs such as Medicaid, SNAP, SSI, etc.). Eligible individuals include green card holders, DACA recipients, crime victims, COFA migrants, child maltreatment victims and orphans with SIJS, and other non-citizens legally residing in the US.
- [**Improving Medicare Coverage Act.**](#) This bill lowers the age that an individual qualifies for Medicare to 60. It also simplifies and consolidates other programs within Medicare to increase access to health care for low-income individuals.
- [**Local Journalism Sustainability Act**](#) (LJSA) included in Budget Reconciliation. A key piece of the LJSA was included in the Ways and Means portion of the

Budget Reconciliation bill. It would provide a tax credit to assist local newspapers around the country in hiring and retaining journalists. My office continues to work with our Senate partners to see the full bill included in the final Reconciliation bill negotiated between the two chambers.

Noteworthy Meetings

- I joined my colleagues on the Agriculture Committee hearing to discuss our portion of the budget reconciliation package. This crucial legislation for our farmers and rural America makes significant investments in climate research, agricultural innovation and education, and rural communities.



- Our team met with the Pima County Schools Superintendent, Dustin Williams, to discuss the state of our school amidst COVID, how the school year is shaping up, and ways in which our office can be helpful to public schools throughout our community, including technical support and grant assistance.



- Our office met with members of the International Rescue Committee (IRC) in Arizona to discuss ways we can assist the IRC in providing humanitarian relief and recovery assistance to Afghan families as they arrive here and across the country.

District Updates

Suicide Prevention Awareness Month

September is suicide prevention month and a time for us to raise awareness and address the urgency of preventing suicide.

If you or a loved one needs help call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1 - 800-273-8255 or visit [this website](#) for resources. [Here](#) are additional resources for veterans.

Child Tax Credit

The American Rescue Plan expanded the Child Tax Credit to up to \$3,600 per child for children ages 0 to 5 and \$3,000 per child for children ages 6 to 17. The Plan also authorized advance monthly payments of the Child Tax Credit which began in July and will run through December! Qualifying families can get up to \$300 a month per child for children ages 0 to 5 and \$250 a month per child for children ages 6 to 17.

Families are able to determine their eligibility, check the status of their payments, and more at [IRS.gov/childtaxcredit2021](https://irs.gov/childtaxcredit2021).

Vaccine Appointments & News

On Wednesday, we had our weekly AZ-02 COVID Task Force call. Transmission among adults is slowing down and profoundly shifted towards individuals 19 and younger. As schools resume in-person learning, we must follow CDC guidelines on masking and safety.

About 60% of Arizona adults have received at least 2 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine and the entire state's transmission rate is high. The vaccine is the most important public health priority to reduce transmission and severe illness, get your vaccine as soon as possible!

PIMA COUNTY

Sign up for a vaccine in Pima County by clicking [here](#).

Pima County Help Lines: Contact help from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week, at 520-222-0119 for TCC/TMC. For help with Banner Appointments call (833) 509-0908. For help with registering for the Arizona Health Department vaccination center at the University of Arizona 1 (844) 542-8201.

COCHISE COUNTY

To register for an appointment, click [here](#). Other locations in Cochise County can be found here. For those without internet or those having technology issues, call the ADHS Help line, (602) 542-1000 or (844) 542-8201.

If you encounter problems with the Arizona Department of Health Services website, or do not have internet access, please call one of these numbers for assistance:

ADHS hotline - (602) 542-1000
Additional hotline - (844) 542-8201
COVID Hotline - Dial 2-1-1

New Office Announcements

- I am excited to announce the following promotions in our District offices:
 - Billy Kovacs as Deputy District Director
 - Theresa Walsh as Director of Cochise County Outreach
 - Kiley Parker as Director of Constituent Services
 - Curneshia Gildon as Deputy Director of Constituent Services
 - Rosa Garza as Senior Constituent Caseworker
- Our District and DC offices also have two new interns for the Fall semester. We are so thankful for all of their help!



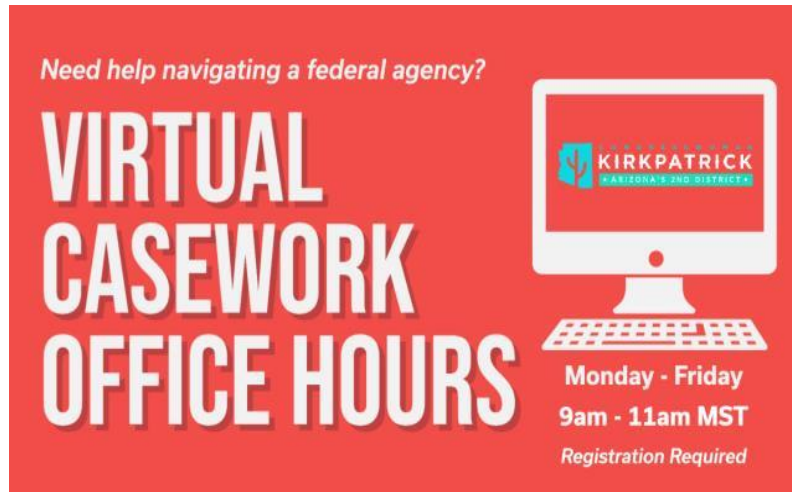
Tubah Ahmad is a senior at the University of Arizona double majoring in Law and Arabic. She recently served as a policy intern for the Transportation, Military, and Public Safety committees at the Arizona House of Representatives, where she found a passion for public service. She is eager to learn more about the legislative process and work closely with our district office.

Dakota Busby is serving in our DC office and is a recent graduate of Texas A&M in economics. He is excited to participate in government through more than just voting, motivated by recent events in our country. Dakota is looking forward to exploring his new home in Washington DC and working on Capitol Hill.



Constituent Services Update

My team is still holding daily (M-F) virtual office hours! Register [here](#) ahead of time.



Do you need help navigating a federal agency? Please don't hesitate to reach out to my team by clicking [here](#).

Casework Success Stories!

- We passed the \$4 million dollar mark for money returned or saved for Southern Arizonans! I am so proud of my casework team for their diligent work to assist residents of AZ-02.
- If you are having trouble with Passport Services, please reach out to our office. The casework team has been able to help multiple constituents get updates on their applications and in many cases receive their passports back in time for their upcoming travel.
- Our constituent services team has been managing incoming requests to help Afghan refugees, if you have any questions please contact us!

Please remember that while my office is physically closed due to COVID-19, we are still here to serve you. Don't hesitate to reach out! Visit my [website](#) for more information on casework, send me an [email](#), and follow me on [social media](#)! I love hearing from you.

Thanks for reading the newsletter. Stay healthy, keep wearing masks, & get vaccinated!

Best,

Ann Kirkpatrick

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "X Kilpatrick". The signature is stylized with a large "X" and a cursive "Kilpatrick".

Member of Congress

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